

EXPLANATION OF THE BANNER.

DESIGN AND EXPLANATION BY WOR BRO HARRY CHERRINGTON

DATE OF CONSECRATION
SEPTEMBER 14th, 1928, A.D.DATE OF CHARTER
MAY 31st, 1928, A.D.

THE BANNER

The Term MOSAIC refers to a mode of representing objects by the in-laying of small cubes of glass, stone or marble and was much in repute among the Ancients. As the Artist relies for effect on the careful fitting and blending of the tesserae, so is it necessary that every FREEMASON should be enabled to distinguish and appreciate the connection of our whole System and the relative dependency of its several parts. As the Design generally is based on the Circle, the starting place is a C. that being a point from which a M. cannot err. The V. of the S.L., which all Masons are charged to consider as the un-erring standard of TRUTH and JUSTICE, is the Central Symbol. In close contact with the V. of the S.L. are the S. and C. symbolizing the Grand Principles on which our Order is founded, BROTHERLY LOVE, RELIEF and TRUTH.

The foregoing emblems are superimposed on a pentagon into which is woven the five-pointed star to represent the F.P. of F. The 24 parts into which the encompassing bands are divided represent the 24 hours of the Day and the 12 larger divisions the 12 months of the year. In the latter spaces are depicted the 12 Signs of the Zodiac, representing the Constellation and thereby the Heavens or Celestial Canopy forming the covering of every Freemasons Lodge. The knotted rope performs two functions, to signify the effect of FREEMASONRY in binding its Votaries in Fraternal Unity and to signify the close ties between this Lodge and HARMONIC LODGE, No. 252. The scheme is completed by four rays emblematically to represent the four Cardinal Virtues, PRUDENCE, TEMPERANCE, FORTITUDE and JUSTICE. Thus, guided by the Divine Precepts, we are to adhere to the Principles of the S. and C. and to maintain the F.P. of F. throughout the 24 hours of the Day and the 12 months of the year, in whatever position we are under the CANOPY of HEAVEN, to work together in Unity and allow ourselves to be dominated by the distinguishing characteristics of Ancient Freemasons.

ARIES ♈ the Ram, or more correctly the Lamb, represents Innocence or Meekness—the Meekness of the Brethren in submitting to the Rule of the W.M. symbolised by TAURUS ♉ the Bull representing Power or Rule. GEMINI ♊ the Twins, symbolise the two Wardens, working in Unison with the W.M. in the well ruling and governing of the Lodge. CANCER ♋ the Crab is emblematical of Holding or Steadfastness, the quality required of all of us in adhering to our O. LEO ♌ the Lion is the symbol of Victory and is often depicted with one foot crushing a Serpent—thus the power given by the L. of L. to enable us to Trample the K. of T. beneath our feet. VIRGO ♍ the Virgin is symbolical of Seed or Offspring and is here depicted as the Assyrian Venus *Ihtar*, but is sometimes represented carrying an ear of corn—thus P. LIBRA ♎ the scales, more often shown with one side elevated and the other depressed to symbolise the Power of Good over Evil. SCORPIO ♏ the Scorpion signifies Hurt or Wounding, in a Masonic sense it calls on us to be Cautious and reminds us of the P. of our O. SAGITTARIUS ♐ the Archer is emblematical of Going Forth or that sympathy which induces us to extend relief and consolation to our Fellow Creatures in the hour of their affliction. CAPRICORN ♑ the Goat represents sacrifice or that Virtue which may justly be denominated the distinguishing characteristic of a Freemason's heart, Charity. AQUARIUS ♒ the Water Bearer signifies Cleansing or the Force of Conscience which should keep down all vain and un-becoming thoughts. PISCES ♓ the Fishes represents Multitudes or the thousands who range themselves under our banners. As the fishes are correctly represented when united by a band or cord, one end of which is under the forefoot of Aries, this appropriately completes the Circle by attributing Meekness or Obedience to the majority, symbolically shewing that some must, of necessity, Rule and Teach, so others must, of course, learn, submit and obey.

The Banner was designed by Brother Harry Cherrington, embroidered by Mrs. F. G. G. Walker and presented to the Lodge by Brother and Mrs. F. G. G. Walker on October 19th, 1928. The above explanation was prepared and delivered to the Lodge by Brother Cherrington on November 16th, 1929. The Dedicatory Ceremony as prepared by the late Wor. Bro. James Jones, P.M. 252, P.G.Std.B.Eng., P.P.G.W., was performed by Wor. Bro. William Hanson, P.M. 252, P.P.G.W. on April 19th, 1929.